

**RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_, SERIES 2006**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE MONTH IN METRO LOUISVILLE.**

**SPONSORED BY: CW MARY WOOLRIDGE, CW  
CHERI HAMILTON, CM BOB HENDERSON, CM STUART  
BENSON, CM TOM OWENS, CW VICKI WELCH, CW  
BARBARA SHANKLIN, CM KEVIN KRAMER, CM DAVID  
TANDY, CM DOUG HAWKINS, CM KEN FLEMING, CM  
GLEN STUCKEL**

**WHEREAS**, Alzheimer's disease is a slow, progressive disorder of the brain that results in loss of memory and other cognitive function, and eventually, results in death; and

**WHEREAS**, Alzheimer's disease is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States and currently affects an estimated five million Americans, with that number expected to triple by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, in our Louisville Metro area today Alzheimer's affects more than 50,000 individuals, family members and professional caregivers, with this number projected to increase by 31% in the next 20 years; and

**WHEREAS**, African-Americans are among the hardest hit by Alzheimer's disease, and Alzheimer's will soar 600% among Hispanics by 2050; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of factors associated with the disease, including stigma, denial, lack of knowledge, resistance to visiting a doctor, and concern about health care costs, may result in a delay of diagnosis, in some cases up to six years; and

**WHEREAS**, Alzheimer's disease takes an enormous toll on loving family members, with an estimated one in four acting as caregivers for each individual with the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease watch closely the harmful effects of the disease and often suffer more stress, depression, and health problems than caregivers of people with other illnesses; and

**WHEREAS**, unless science finds a way to prevent or cure the disease, annual Medicare and Medicaid costs of treating beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease will increase 65 percent in the next five years, and Alzheimer's disease already costs American business \$61 billion a year due to health care and caregiver expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, recent advancements in scientific research have demonstrated the benefits of early medical treatment for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, and surveys and research have shown the benefits of early access to counseling and other support services for persons with Alzheimer's and their caregivers, and

**WHEREAS**, persons with memory problems should consult their physicians or qualified health professionals for evaluation, diagnosis, and necessary treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, early detection of dementia can identify individuals at risk, help individuals plan for their care and take advantage of support services, and lead to interventions to reduce the incidence of avoidable harms such as accidents, injuries, and complications of co-morbid medical conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, November is National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, designated to increase public awareness of Alzheimer's disease.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT, (METRO COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I.** The Metro Council on behalf of the Louisville Community, to enhance public awareness of Alzheimer's disease, hereby designates the month of November 2006 as National Alzheimer's disease month in Louisville.

**SECTION II.** This resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kathleen J. Herron**  
**Metro Council Clerk**

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**Kevin J. Kramer**  
**President of the Council**

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**Jerry E. Abramson**  
**Mayor**

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY**

**Irv Maze**  
**Jefferson County Attorney**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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11/3 REVISED LB ROC